

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-13 were reported in the Office Action as pending. Claims 1 and 3-13 are rejected. Claim 2 has been previously cancelled. ARE WE AMENDING CLAIMS? Claims 1 and 3-13 remain in the application.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 112

It is asserted in the Office Action that Claim 1 and 8 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Claims 1 and 8 and their dependents are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In response, Applicant has amended the limitation in Claim 1 and 8 to read as “whereby the confidentiality of a card hand for each user is increased” as suggested by the Examiner.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1 and 8 under 35 USC 112, first and second paragraph, is requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103(a)

It is asserted in the Office Action that Claims 1 and 3-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6,719,631 issued to Tulley in view of US 5,702,305, issued to Norman, and further view of US 5,683,297, issued to Raviv.

In response, reconsideration and withdrawal of the above rejection of record under 35 USC 103(a) is requested in view of the following.

In essence, the art rejection is the same as set forth in the prior Action excepting that in the present Action, the Examiner cites Raviv instead of Okamoto for its teaching of providing a

screen with a concave surface. The Examiner contending “it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant’s invention to provide a screen with a concave surface in the system taught by view of Norman for the purpose of magnifying images, resulting in improved viewing capability.” In this connection, Applicant notes the following:

1) Raviv teaches a display for a headset, where by nature the display is just in front of the user's eyes, so that there is no issue of confidentiality of what is displayed, especially when playing games around a game board.

2) The concavity of the plate disclosed in Raviv is not related to any issue of confidentiality, but aims at enlarging the image generated at the LCD 31 which is projected onto view screen 32. In this regard, the view screen 32 is not a "display" as that term is used by Applicant and in the claims (i.e. an image generating device), but a semi-reflecting concave mirror, whose shape is intended to modify the optical properties of the view screen for enlarging an image.

3) In addition, where Raviv describes a handheld device for use in its system (see in particular figure 6), such handheld device has an ordinary flat display and not a concave display.

Thus, although Raviv does disclose a concave view screen, such view screen, being part of a headset, and being used for the purpose of magnifying an image displayed thereon, would not lead a person skilled in the art to a display screen defining a concave surface to provide increased confidentiality of a displayed card hand. The element in Raviv which corresponds to the claimed display screen is image screen 31. That is, a person reading Raviv would recognize that view screen 32 is concave so as to magnify the image being projected by image screen 31. Since in this embodiment, the image screen and display screen are part of a headset whose image could not be viewed by a third party since viewing screen 32 is positioned directly in front of the user’s face as shown for example in Figure 3, the skilled person would not look to Raviv since its teaching of a concave surface is for a completely different purpose than that of the present invention, the need for which (i.e., confidentiality) does not exist. In fact, Raviv teaches away from this aspect of the present invention since in an embodiment in which confidentiality may be

an issue, i.e., the console game system shown in Figure 6, all of the screens used for an image, i.e., image screen 31, mirror 78 and viewing screen 82 all show flat surfaces.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1 and 3-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6,719,631 issued to Tulley in view of US 5,702,305, issued to Norman, and further view of US 5,683,297, issued to Raviv is respectively requested. Additionally, in this event the Examiner remains unconvinced of the patentability of this invention over the combination of Tulley, Norman and Raviv, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to arrange an interview.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the claims pending, namely Claims 1 and 3-13, are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date:

7/25/2010

By:

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted electronically via EFS Web to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.
Linda Metz 7/26/2010

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Per 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) and in connection with the Office Action mailed on February 24, 2010, Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for a two (2) month extension of time, extending the period for response to July 26, 2010. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the petition filing fee for a 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(2) large entity.


Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date:

7/26/2010

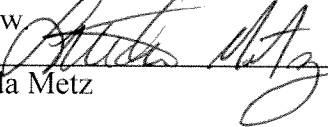
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